

The Wessington House
Chowan County
120 W. King Street
Edenton, North Carolina

HABS No. NC-171

HABS
NC
21-EDET,
16-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Washington 25, D. C.

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GENERAL STATEMENT: The house of two and a half stories and basement is of French design. A two-storied porch with cast-iron railing runs across the front. Cast-iron balconies at the first and second floor on both sides. A small semi-enclosed service porch at the rear.

The old underground cistern complete with pump is still in operation.

The house and grounds are in excellent condition.

DETAIL DESCRIPTION - EXTERIOR

Orientation: The house faces south.

Foundation & Wall Construction: Brick laid in flemish bond. 4 courses equal $11\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Exterior Openings - Doors: The front door is a pair of six-panel doors with a stained glass transom and side lights. All of the openings onto the balconies are six light french doors with a stained glass transom and louvered shutters. The rear door is a six-panel.

Windows: The basement windows are eight light double casement sash. All other windows are double hung. Louvered shutters on dormer windows only.

Roof: Hip roof with deck. Standing seam metal roofing. Box cornice, 6 dormers with rectangular windows.

Chimneys: 4 brick interior chimneys.

INTERIOR

Stairways: Two wood stairways. Main stair has paneled step ends.

Floors: $6\frac{1}{4}$ pine boards.

Walls and Ceilings: Plaster with moulded ceiling ornamentation.

Doors: Paired doors - two panel, single doors - four panel.

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Trim: Moulded wood trim and paneled reveal. Original.

Hardware: All of the hardware observed appeared to be original.

Mantel: Italian marble, original.

OTHER

Grounds: The house is located on a large well kept corner lot with many large oak and magnolia trees. All walks and driveways are gravel surface.

HISTORICAL DATA

Date of Erection: 1845-1848.

Original and Subsequent Owners: Dr. Thomas D. Warren. The house was purchased by the Graham family about 1885. The present owner is Mrs. William A. Graham.

Architect: Unknown.

Builder, Suppliers: Unknown.

Alterations: In 1886, a brick wing which had been added at an unknown date was removed. The house now stands as originally built.

HISTORICAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH THE STRUCTURE:

After the battle of Albermarle, the house was occupied by the Federal troops for two years.

All of the above historical data, was obtained from Mrs. William A. Graham, during an interview, May 11, 1958 at the Wessington House.

Prepared by

Samuel Jones
HABS Architect

Date

10/15/58

Approved:

Dick Sutton
Chief Architect

Date

10/15/58